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CIA says millions spent

Libyan favor-buying outlined

By James Coates

Chicago Tribune Press Service

WASHINGTON—The CIA has outlined to the Justice Department a multimillion dollar Libyan effort to influence United States policy and public opinion by targeting hundreds of Americans—such as Billy Carter into associating with the pro-terrorist state.

The organizer of one effort told The Tribune he spent more than \$225,000 on air fare alone to bring 125 Americans to Libya right after the President's brother made his first trip there in late 1978.

Richard Shadyac, a major Arab lobbyist here, acknowledged that while his group ostensibly was part of an "Arab-American dialog" seminar, some of the Americans were taken under wing by Libyan hosts and offered business deals.

Among those on the trip were former Democratic Senate Foreign Relations Chairman William Fulbright, Rep. Nick Joe Rahal (D., W. Va.) former Federal Aviation Administrator Najeeb Halaby; and Bill Edwards, a Wyoming state senator. Shadyac said. Only one guest, Steve Bell of ABC's "Good Morning America," paid his own way he recalled.

ONE DOCUMENT obtained by the CIA and described by CIA Director Stansfield Turner indicates that Libya worked in three general areas trying to win favor among Americans:

- The Libyans made some Americans lucrative offers as brokers for oil

deals—such as Billy Carter and unnamed members of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Chicago's Rev. Jesse Jackson apparently was also targeted for an oil deal which he says never came off.

- They offered others brokers' commissions for such items as peanuts, soybeans, and wheat. Several prominent Idaho leaders apparently received such offers as did some Carter Georgia associates, including former White House Budget Director Bert Lance.

- They provided other Americans with trips to the North African nation, where they were given the opportunity to make their own business deals with the oil-rich Arabs or simply enjoy touring the extensive Roman ruins along the Mediterranean shoreline.

A SPOKESMAN for Sen. Birch Bayh (D., Ind.), chairman of the subcommittee investigating the Billy Carter affair, said the panel's nine senators will decide after Oct. 4 whether to pursue a wider examination of Libyan influence-buying efforts.

The Libyans discussed agricultural deals, with leaders in Idaho, Georgia, and Wyoming, according to documents compiled by various intelligence agencies, it was learned.

For example, U.S. Sen. James McClure and Rep. Steven Symms, both conservative Idaho Republicans traveled to Libya, CIA documents sent to the Justice Department show.

Bayh associates acknowledged that the senator is considering a possible investigation of whether a number of powerful state figures invested part of the money they received from Libya in efforts to defeat Sen. Frank Church (D., Idaho). Church is an outspoken foe of Libya and the liberal chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

SHADYAC confirmed in a phone interview that he arranged an expen-junket of Libya in October, 1978, just days after Billy Carter left the North African country.

The Americans on that trip included Rep. Rahal, the owner of radio and television stations who is of Lebanese extraction; Halaby, an ethnic Arab who served as FAA chief and president of Pan American World Airways in the 1960s; and Dean Brown, former U.S. ambassador to Jordan.

Also on that trip, said Shadyac, was Allan Grant, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Grant has acknowledged recently that he tried to arrange an oil deal with Libya which would have allowed an oil cooperative owned by the federation to obtain Libyan crude. He has confirmed the CIA files which show that he visited there frequently.

Last week the Justice Department announced it was sending a "letter of inquiry" to the Rev. Mr. Jackson who has acknowledged that he tried to arrange an oil deal. The Rev. Mr. Jackson has denied ever visiting Libya.

McClure, James
Symms, Steven